

Application No.: 10/606,819  
Reply to Office Action of November 28, 2005

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and re-examination are hereby requested.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U. S. C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,691,191).

As pointed out in the patent application beginning at paragraph [019]:

On the other hand, if one of the clients experienced an ARTRY condition during its previous bus 12 access, the process proceeds to Step 206 and the bus client that experienced the ARTRY condition, for example, client\_x, is granted access to the bus 12 at the earliest opportunity if client\_x is requesting access to the bus 12.

Referring now to the claims, claim 3 points out that the bus arbiter grants access to the bus in response to whether one of the requesting clients experienced an "address retry" condition during its previous bus access, and if so, granting such one of the requesting clients access to the bus at the earliest opportunity.

It is respectfully submitted that Kobayashi et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,691,191 does not grant access to the bus in response to whether one of the requesting clients experienced an "address retry" condition during its previous bus access, and if so, granting such one of the requesting clients access to the bus at the earliest opportunity, as in claim 3. Instead, Kobayashi et al describes (see column 2, line 63 through column 3, line 13 and column 4, lines 44-48) an address retry counter and/or timer that determines when the granting of the bus access to the client that experienced the address retry condition will occur.

Claim 4 points out that a bus arbiter grants access to the bus, such bus access by one of such clients being used to transfer data between the client and the memory, such bus arbiter providing access to the bus in response to whether one of the requesting clients experienced an induced "address retry" condition during its previous bus access and, if so, granting such one of the requesting clients access to the bus at the earliest opportunity.

It is respectfully submitted that Kobayashi et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,691,191 does not

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provide access to the bus in response to whether one of the requesting clients experienced an induced "address retry" condition during its previous bus access and, if so, granting such one of the requesting clients access to the bus at the earliest opportunity, as in claim 4. Instead, Kobayashi et al describes (see column 2, line 63 through column 3, line 13 and column 4, lines 44-48) an address retry counter and/or timer that determines when the granting of the bus access to the client that experienced the address retry condition will occur.

In the event a petition for extension of time is required by this paper and not otherwise provided, such petition is hereby made and authorization is provided herewith to charge deposit account No. 05-0889 for the cost of such extension.

In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 05-0889.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

12/14/2005



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